

Detailed Action

An examiner's amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

27. (Currently Amended) One or more computer storage media excluding a signal or carrier wave without physical structure, the computer storage media storing processor- executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, configures a computer to perform operations comprising:

presenting a first user interface (UI) on a first multimedia presentation system at a first locus, the first UI providing a listing of multiple loci within a physical environment to which a bookmark can be sent;

receiving, through the first UI, a user request to send a bookmark to a specified second locus from among any of the multiple loci, the second locus including a second multimedia presentation system, the bookmark including an indication of a point within a multimedia program, wherein the specified second locus need not be the same second locus in the event of a subsequent user request;

Art Unit: 2425

sending the bookmark to the second multimedia presentation system at the second locus;

in response to the second multimedia presentation system receiving the bookmark, and without user interaction, presenting a second UI on the second multimedia presentation system, the second UI prompting for user-selection to resume the multimedia program at the second multimedia presentation system;

in response to presenting the second UI, receiving a user selection through the second UI;

requesting that a communicatively coupled multimedia server stream to the second multimedia presentation system, the multimedia program, beginning from the point within the multimedia program indicated by the bookmark; and

presenting the multimedia program at the second multimedia presentation system from the point within the multimedia program indicated by the bookmark.

37. (Previously Presented) A system comprising: means for receiving, at a first multimedia system at a first location, a bookmark indicating a position within a multimedia program, the bookmark having been set from a user interface providing a listing of multiple locations with physical environment to which a

Art Unit: 2425

bookmark can be sent from a second multimedia system at a second location;
means for presenting a UI on the first multimedia presentation system, the UI including a display of the bookmark and a prompt for user input to accept the bookmark and resume presentation of the multimedia program at the first multimedia presentation system, the UI being presented in direct response to receiving the bookmark, the UI not being presented in response to user interaction with the first multimedia presentation system;

means for receiving user input through the UI that indicates a user request to resume presentation of the multimedia program from the position of the bookmark;

means for requesting that a communicatively coupled multimedia server stream to the first multimedia presentation system, the multimedia program from the position of the bookmark; and

means for presenting the multimedia program at the first multimedia presentation system from the position of the bookmark.

64. (Previously Presented) A computer storage medium excluding a signal or carrier wave without physical structure, the computer storage medium having computer-executable instructions recorded thereon that, when executed by a processor, instructs the processor to perform operations comprising:

generating a bookmark to mark a point during a presentation of a program, the program being presented through a first presentation system at a first physical location within a physical environment;

storing the bookmark that marks the point during presentation of the program; receiving, through a user interface at the first presentation system, a selection of a second presentation system at a second physical location within the physical environment, the selection indicating that the bookmark is to be sent to the second presentation system; and

in response to the selection of the second presentation system through the user interface at the first presentation system, sending the bookmark to the second presentation system, causing the second presentation system to present, without user interaction, a user interface indicating the ability to resume, through the second presentation system, presentation of the program from the point marked by the bookmark.

79. (Previously Presented) A computer storage medium excluding a signal or carrier wave without physical structure, the computer storage medium having processor-executable instructions recorded thereon that, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform operations comprising:

receiving a multimedia program from a media distribution system as part of a broadcast media transmission wherein the broadcast media transmission is selected from a group consisting of incoming live television broadcast, incoming live cable television signal, incoming live satellite signal, incoming live video-on-demand signal, and incoming live pay-per-view signal;

communicating over a local area network with a first multimedia presentation system at a first physical location to present the multimedia program through the first multimedia presentation system;

communicating over the local area network with the first multimedia presentation system to present a first user interface (UI) on the first multimedia presentation system, wherein the first UI provides a listing of other multimedia presentation systems available on the local area network, the other multimedia presentation systems including a second multimedia presentation system at a second physical location;

determining that a user-submitted input is one which is designated to generate a bookmark;

in response to the determining, generating a bookmark that indicates a point during presentation of the multimedia program through the first multimedia presentation system;

Art Unit: 2425

sending the bookmark over the local area network to the second multimedia presentation system;

communicating over the local area network with the second multimedia presentation system to present a second UI on the second multimedia presentation system, wherein the UI on the second multimedia system includes at least one of:

a list of programs that have been bookmarked during a defined time; or an invitation to accept the bookmark and resume the multimedia program at the second multimedia presentation system, wherein the second UI is presented on the second multimedia presentation system independent of receiving user input.

80. (Previously Presented) A multimedia node communicatively coupled to a multimedia hub over a communications network, the multimedia node comprising:

a multimedia rendering unit configured to present multimedia content and one or more user interfaces (UIs) on a presentation device at a first locus; and a computing unit configured to:

receive a media content bookmark from the multimedia hub, the media content bookmark being received in response to a user-submitted request at another multimedia node at a second locus, to create the media content

Art Unit: 2425

bookmark and to specify to send the media content bookmark to the multimedia node at the first locus;

upon receipt of the media content bookmark, and without user input, present a UI on the presentation device at the first locus, wherein the UI presented on the presentation device at the first locus includes an indication that the media content bookmark is available; and

upon user-selection of the indication that the media content bookmark is available, presenting, on the presentation device at the first locus, media content associated with the media content bookmark, beginning at a location within the media content that is indicated by the media content bookmark.

106. (Currently Amended)A multimedia system comprising: a multimedia server comprising a first tuner and a second tuner, the first tuner operable to receive a first multimedia program, and the second tuner operable to receive a second multimedia program;

a first presentation system coupled to the multimedia server and associated with the first tuner, the first presentation system operable to receive and present the first multimedia program and a user interface (UI) to receive a user-submitted request to bookmark a location within the first multimedia program and to provide a listing of other multimedia presentation systems for selection from which the first multimedia program can be resumed from the bookmark location; and

a second presentation system coupled to the multimedia server and associated with the second tuner, the second presentation system operable to receive and present the second multimedia program;

wherein the multimedia server is configured to:

receive from the first presentation system, the user-submitted request to bookmark the location within the first multimedia program;
in response to the user-submitted request, store the bookmark in association with the first multimedia program and, without receiving a request from the second presentation system, for a predefined time send an indication of the bookmark to the second presentation system for presentation of the bookmark at the second presentation system; and
resume presentation of the first multimedia program at the second presentation system;

receive a user submitted request to resume the presentation of the first multimedia program at the second presentation system; and resume presentation of the first multimedia program at the second presentation system.

Claims 86-87; 93-100 are cancelled.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Bea Koempel-Thomas on 03/21/2012.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 27-36; 37; 64-85; 88-92; 101-105; 106-112 are allowed over prior art of record. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The art of record did not teach or suggest the claim taken as a whole and particular the limitation pertaining to:

For claim 27: "presenting a first user interface (UI) on a first multimedia presentation system at a first locus, the first UI providing a listing of multiple loci within a physical environment to which a bookmark can be sent; receiving, through the first UI, a user request to send a bookmark to a specified second locus from among any of the multiple loci, the second locus including a second multimedia presentation system, the bookmark including an indication of a point within a multimedia program, wherein the specified second locus need not be the same second locus in the event of a subsequent user request; sending the bookmark to the second multimedia presentation system at the second locus; in response to the second multimedia presentation system receiving the bookmark, and without user interaction, presenting a second UI on the second multimedia presentation system"

For claim 37: "means for receiving, at a first multimedia system at a first location, a bookmark indicating a position within a multimedia program, the bookmark having been set from user interface (UI) providing a listing of multiple locations with a physical environment to which a bookmark can be sent from a

second multimedia system at a second location; means for presenting a UI on the first multimedia presentation system, the UI including a display of the bookmark and a prompt for user input to accept the bookmark and resume presentation of the multimedia program at the first multimedia presentation system, the UI being presented in direct response to receiving the bookmark, the UI not being presented in response to user interaction with the first multimedia presentation system” .

For claim 64: “receiving, through a user interface at the first presentation system, a selection of a second presentation system at a second physical location within the physical environment, the selection indicating that the bookmark is to be sent to the second presentation system; and in response to the selection of the second presentation system through the user interface at the first presentation system, sending the bookmark to the second presentation system, causing the second presentation system to present, without user interaction, a user interface indicating the ability to resume, through the second presentation system, presentation of the program from the point marked by the bookmark”.

For claim 76: “resenting a first user interface (UI) through the first presentation system, the first UI enabling a user to bookmark a point in a program, and the first UI indicating a list of other presentation systems to which a bookmark can be sent; receiving, from the first presentation system, an indication

Art Unit: 2425

of a point in a program; generating a bookmark representing the point in the program that is indicated; receiving, through the first UI and over the local area network, a user selection of a second presentation system from the list of other presentation systems; sending the bookmark to the second presentation system over the local area network; and presenting a second UI on the second presentation system, without user input on the second presentation system, wherein the second UI comprises an invitation for user input to accept the bookmark and resume the program at the second presentation system”.

For claim 79: “communicating over the local area network with the first multimedia presentation system to present a first user interface (UI) on the first multimedia presentation system, wherein the first UI provides a listing of other multimedia presentation systems available on the local area network, the other multimedia presentation systems including a second multimedia presentation system at a second physical location; determining that a user-submitted input is one which is designated to generate a bookmark; in response to the determining, generating a bookmark that indicates a point during presentation of the multimedia program through the first multimedia presentation system; sending the bookmark over the local area network to the second multimedia presentation system”.

For claim 80: “receive a media content bookmark from the multimedia hub, the media content bookmark being received in response to a user-submitted

request at another multimedia node at a second locus, to create the media content bookmark and to specify to send the media content bookmark to the multimedia node at the first locus; upon receipt of the media content bookmark, and without user input, present a UI on the presentation device at the first locus, wherein the UI presented on the presentation device at the first locus includes an indication that the media content bookmark is available” .

For claim 88: “a user interface (UI) on the first presentation system is configured to prompt for user input indicating a presentation system available on the local area network to which the bookmark generated at the first presentation system is to be sent; a UI at the second presentation system, the presentation system to which the bookmark is sent, is configured to prepare, for selection by a user, an indication that the user has arrived at the second presentation system and is ready to resume the first multimedia program as indicated by the bookmark, the indication being prepared and displayed for selection in direct response to receiving the bookmark and independent of any user interaction with the second presentation system; and the server device is further configured to allow the second presentation system to access the first multimedia program beginning at the location within the first multimedia program that is indicated by the bookmark”.

For claim 101: “wherein a user interface (UI) associated with the first multimedia presentation system is configured to prompt for a location to which to

send a bookmark generated at the first multimedia presentation system, and wherein a UI at a second multimedia presentation system, to which the bookmark was sent, is configured, responsive to the location to which the bookmark was sent including the second multimedia presentation system, to prepare and display, independent of user input, for selection by a user, an indication that a program has arrived at the second multimedia presentation system and is ready to resume presentation as indicated by the bookmark”.

For claim 106: “a first presentation system coupled to the multimedia server and associated with the first tuner, the first presentation system operable to receive and present the first multimedia program and a user interface (UI) to receive a user-submitted request to bookmark a location within the first multimedia program; and a second presentation system coupled to the multimedia server and associated with the second tuner, the second presentation system operable to receive and present the second multimedia program; and, without receiving a request from the second presentation system, for a predefined time send an indication of the bookmark to the second presentation system for presentation of the bookmark at the second presentation system; and resume presentation of the first multimedia program at the second presentation system”.

With respect to independent claims 27, 37, 64, 76, 79, 80, 88, 101, 106;
Vasilevsky et al disclose home area-networked digital video recording and

Art Unit: 2425

playback system allowing video bookmarking and playback of the same program from different receivers/reproduction devices,0024; general Graphical User Interface display provided to system users, showing the recorded programs available for viewing by said users,0025; upon the demand of a user, placing a program bookmark in a stored program representing a point in the program where reproduction has stopped, and via another reproduction device,0022; the media server being adapted to upon the demand of a user via a reproduction device, transmit in a reproducible format, programs to the reproduction devices,0021; all of the bookmarks accessible to system users are listed by program, user and program pause location,0058; the bookmark display 400 can contain all of the active bookmarks for the program, or only those to which the user has access,0055.

And Vasilevsky et al disclose the media server being adapted to upon the demand of a user via a reproduction device, transmit in a reproducible format, programs to the reproduction devices, 0021; rendering the decoded and decrypted signals compatible for display with the television receivers 124, 128 and 132, 0034; the same program can be resumed from the same pause point and viewed, but from a different receiver, 0049.

And Bowman et al disclose the user identification code is assigned when the user completes a user profile in becoming a subscriber to the retrieval system.

Art Unit: 2425

The retrieved work or song title is then transmitted to the user's mobile telephone or another user-selected destination, 0016; 0023.

And Ellis et al disclose at an appropriate time before the selected program is scheduled to air e.g., a predefined user-selectable number of minutes, hours or days, a reminder may be issued by the local or remote interactive television program guides, or both. The reminder may be issued on all remote program guide access devices 24 available to the user, and may be displayed e.g., in the form of a pop-up window or message on user television equipment, 0118; 0117.

And Yui et al disclose when the destination detecting means detects a destination of the user whose movement has been detected; the content can be used at the electronic device at the destination from the position based on the information indicating the reproduction position of the content that was used, 0018; 0013; 0166; 0222; 0303.

And Shteyn et al disclose enables the user to select in advance at least a specific one from multiple geographically different locations at which the recorded, selected content information will be made available for play-out, col.1, lines 39-43; in response to the user's selection, and has the content made available to him or her at that location, col.1, lines 55-64; the invention also enables the user to specify a time frame for making the recorded content information available for play-out at the specific location. The content information

Art Unit: 2425

can be recorded at a first recording system, e.g., at a server, where after the recorded selected content information is streamed over a data network, e.g., over the Internet or a private network like AOL, from the first recording system to the location specified by the user, col.1, lines 34-37.

And Vallone et al disclose records the frame of the program where the user stopped or the user commands the system to place a bookmark, col.16, lines 36-38.

And Zigmond et al disclose the user may have paused a multimedia presentation, such as a broadcast television program at a certain sound volume in the previous room and when the presence of the roving remote is sensed in the new room the media network can automatically resume the program at a comparable initial sound volume in the new room and at the point in the program that the program was previously paused.

And Hamilton et al disclose In the event resumption of a particular content stream is chosen in step S812, confirmation window 700 illustrated in FIG. 7 may also be presented for that chosen session in step S812. As illustrated, window 700 is similar to window 400 (FIG. 4) and may be used to provide additional information to server 22, including a potentially newly selected display device for a suspended (i.e. "stopped") content. Advantageously, interaction with window

700 allows the customer to resume playing of content on another media receiver associated with the customer's account.

But Vasilevsky in view of Bowman further in view of Ellis and any of cited references did not teach or suggest, alone or in combination the feature of:

“presenting a first user interface (UI) on a first multimedia presentation system at a first locus, the first UI providing a listing of multiple loci within a physical environment to which a bookmark can be sent; receiving, through the first UI, a user request to send a bookmark to a specified second locus from among any of the multiple loci, the second locus including a second multimedia presentation system, the bookmark including an indication of a point within a multimedia program, wherein the specified second locus need not be the same second locus in the event of a subsequent user request; sending the bookmark to the second multimedia presentation system at the second locus; in response to the second multimedia presentation system receiving the bookmark, and without user interaction, presenting a second UI on the second multimedia presentation system” as recited in combination with other features of independent claim 27.

And “means for receiving, at a first multimedia system at a first location, a bookmark indicating a position within a multimedia program, the bookmark having been set from user interface (UI) providing a listing of multiple locations with a physical environment to which a bookmark can be sent from a second

Art Unit: 2425

multimedia system at a second location; means for presenting a UI on the first multimedia presentation system, the UI including a display of the bookmark and a prompt for user input to accept the bookmark and resume presentation of the multimedia program at the first multimedia presentation system, the UI being presented in direct response to receiving the bookmark, the UI not being presented in response to user interaction with the first multimedia presentation system” as recited in combination with other features of independent claim 37.

And “receiving, through a user interface at the first presentation system, a selection of a second presentation system at a second physical location within the physical environment, the selection indicating that the bookmark is to be sent to the second presentation system; and
in response to the selection of the second presentation system through the user interface at the first presentation system, sending the bookmark to the second presentation system, causing the second presentation system to present, without user interaction, a user interface indicating the ability to resume, through the second presentation system, presentation of the program from the point marked by the bookmark” as recited in combination with other features of independent claim 64.

And “resenting a first user interface (UI) through the first presentation system, the first UI enabling a user to bookmark a point in a program, and the first UI indicating a list of other presentation systems to which a bookmark can be sent;

receiving, from the first presentation system, an indication of a point in a program; generating a bookmark representing the point in the program that is indicated; receiving, through the first UI and over the local area network, a user selection of a second presentation system from the list of other presentation systems; sending the bookmark to the second presentation system over the local area network; and presenting a second UI on the second presentation system, without user input on the second presentation system, wherein the second UI comprises an invitation for user input to accept the bookmark and resume the program at the second presentation system” as recited in combination with other features of independent claim 76.

And “communicating over the local area network with the first multimedia presentation system to present a first user interface (UI) on the first multimedia presentation system, wherein the first UI provides a listing of other multimedia presentation systems available on the local area network, the other multimedia presentation systems including a second multimedia presentation system at a second physical location; determining that a user-submitted input is one which is designated to generate a bookmark; in response to the determining, generating a bookmark that indicates a point during presentation of the multimedia program through the first multimedia presentation system; sending the bookmark over the local area network to the second multimedia presentation system” as recited in combination with other features of independent claim 79.

And “receive a media content bookmark from the multimedia hub, the media content bookmark being received in response to a user-submitted request at another multimedia node at a second locus, to create the media content bookmark and to specify to send the media content bookmark to the multimedia node at the first locus; upon receipt of the media content bookmark, and without user input, present a UI on the presentation device at the first locus, wherein the UI presented on the presentation device at the first locus includes an indication that the media content bookmark is available” as recited in combination with other features of independent claim 80.

And “a user interface (UI) on the first presentation system is configured to prompt for user input indicating a presentation system available on the local area network to which the bookmark generated at the first presentation system is to be sent; a UI at the second presentation system, the presentation system to which the bookmark is sent, is configured to prepare, for selection by a user, an indication that the user has arrived at the second presentation system and is ready to resume the first multimedia program as indicated by the bookmark, the indication being prepared and displayed for selection in direct response to receiving the bookmark and independent of any user interaction with the second presentation system; and the server device is further configured to allow the second presentation system to access the first multimedia program beginning at the location within the first multimedia program that is indicated by the bookmark” as recited in combination with other features of independent claim 88.

And “wherein a user interface (UI) associated with the first multimedia presentation system is configured to prompt for a location to which to send a bookmark generated at the first multimedia presentation system, and wherein a UI at a second multimedia presentation system, to which the bookmark was sent, is configured, responsive to the location to which the bookmark was sent including the second multimedia presentation system, to prepare and display, independent of user input, for selection by a user, an indication that a program has arrived at the second multimedia presentation system and is ready to resume presentation as indicated by the bookmark” as recited in combination with other features of independent claim 101.

And “a first presentation system coupled to the multimedia server and associated with the first tuner, the first presentation system operable to receive and present the first multimedia program and a user interface (UI) to receive a user-submitted request to bookmark a location within the first multimedia program; and a second presentation system coupled to the multimedia server and associated with the second tuner, the second presentation system operable to receive and present the second multimedia program; and, without receiving a request from the second presentation system, for a predefined time send an indication of the bookmark to the second presentation system for presentation of the bookmark at the second presentation system; and resume presentation of the

Art Unit: 2425

first multimedia program at the second presentation system” as recited in combination with other features of independent claim 106.

The dependent claims 28-36, 65-75; 77-78; 81-85; 89-92; 102-105; 107-112 are allowed because are further limit independent/parents claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

McGee et al (7143353) disclose Streaming video bookmarks.

Vallone et al (6642939) disclose Multimedia schedule presentation.

Vasilevsky et al (20050166258) disclose Centralized digital video recording system with bookmarking and playback from multiple locations.

Shteyn et al (6611654) disclose Time and location-driven personalized TV.

Zigmond et al (7492278) disclose Context-sensitive remote controls.

Hamilton et al (20030139980) disclose Method and system for providing and controlling delivery of content on-demand over a cable television network and a data network.

Bowman et al (20020174431) Method and system for receiving music related information via an internet connection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean Duclos Saintcyr whose phone number is 571-270-3224. The examiner can normally reach on M-F 7:30-5:00 PM EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are not successful, his supervisor, Brian Pendleton, can be reach on 571-272-7527. The fax number for the organization where the application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197(toll free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the

Art Unit: 2425

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/Jean Duclos Saintcyr /

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